Strategic plan for steel production

608. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any strategic plan for increasing the production of steel and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government have ensured that the production and export of the raw material and iron ore are so balanced as to serve the projected expansion in steel sector; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) In a liberalized environment the Government acts as a facilitator and operational decisions related to capacity expansion are taken at the plant level and depend upon market conditions. However, in the proposed National Steel Policy it has been estimated that in order to become self reliant and globally competitive in the steel sector the country would require indigenous production of over 100 million tonnes of steel per annum by 2020 from the 2004 level of 35 million tonnes.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Supply of iron-ore to Chhattisgarh by NMDC

†609. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Mineral Development Corporation has received demand for supply of iron ore from the iron ore based industries of Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the names of industrialists who placed this demand alongwith the dates when it was received; and

(c) the action taken by corporation in this regard?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.